Notice Concerning Proposed Kansas Air Quality Construction Permit and Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is soliciting comments regarding a proposed air quality construction permit. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has applied for an air quality construction permit in accordance with the provisions of K.A.R. 28-19-300, to construct and operate the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) adjacent to Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), particulate matter (PM), PM equal to or less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM₁₀), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), were evaluated during the permit review process.

The U.S. DHS proposes to own and operate a stationary source, located at 1980 Denison Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas (adjacent to Kansas State University), at which a bio-safety level-3 (BSL-3) and BSL-4 research facility equipped with two (2) controlled-air, double chamber medical waste incinerators will be constructed. In addition, a Central Utility Plant containing seven (7) boilers each with maximum design heat-input rating of 33.475 Million British Thermal Units/Hour (MMBtu/hr), and seven (7) diesel fired emergency generator engines will be installed.

A public comment period has been established to allow citizens the opportunity to express any concerns they may have about this proposed permitting action. The public comment period is to begin on May 24, 2012, and will end on June 26, 2012 at noon. All written comments must be received by noon June 26, 2012. All comments should be submitted to Lynelle M. Ladd, Bureau of Air, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366, or presented at the tentatively scheduled public hearing.

Any member of the public may request to hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed issuance of the draft air quality construction permit. Written requests to hold a public hearing should be submitted, in writing, to Lynelle Ladd, Bureau of Air, 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366, or be sent to the attention of Ms. Sharon Burrell at the address listed above, or by FAX to (785)291-3953, and must be received by noon on Tuesday, June 26, 2012. If a request is received, a public hearing is tentatively scheduled by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) at the Holiday Inn, 1641 Anderson Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas, June 28, 2012 starting at 5:00 p.m., until all verbal and/or written comments have been submitted by participants. If no requests to hold the public hearing are received by noon June 26, 2012, the public hearing will be cancelled. A notice of cancellation will be posted at the KDHE website at http://www.kdheks.gov/bar/publicnotice.html.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing, and may request the proposed materials in an accessible format. Requests for accommodations must be made no later than June 26, 2012.

A copy of the proposed permit, permit application, all supporting documentation, and all information relied upon during the permit application review process are available for public review for a period of 30 days from the date of publication during normal business hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) at the KDHE, Bureau of Air (BOA), 1000 SW Jackson, Suite 310, Topeka, KS 66612-1366. Also, a copy of the proposed permit only, can be reviewed at the KDHE North Central District Office, 2501 Market Place, Suite D, Salina, Kansas 67401. To obtain or review the proposed permit and supporting documentation, contact Lynelle Ladd, (785) 296-1719 at the central office of the KDHE and to review the proposed permit only, contact the Air Quality District Representative at (785)827-9639, in the KDHE North Central District Office. The standard departmental cost will be assessed for any copies requested.

Robert Moser, MD, Secretary Kansas Department of Health and Environment